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The
Niagara Advance

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Thursday, April 9, 2015

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Stampede to kick off with indoor concert 8

Sailing Club begins racing season

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Kids brave cold for Easter eggs

Penny Coles Niagara Advance

Emily Josiak, 3, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, and her two-year-old sister Madelyn scoop up as many eggs as they can at the NOTL Kinsmen Easter Egg Hunt at the community centre Saturday. The Kinsmen gave away 12,600 eggs (70 kgs of chocolate) on the cold morning of the Niagara Nursery School Bunny Trail fundraiser, which offered inflatables, Mad Science, crafts for sale, and Easter goodies.

Transit's ridership more than double first year

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

When the town launched its new transit system three years ago, there were days when not one single person rode the bus, and a day with 10 customers was not unusual.

That doesn't happen any more - in the three years since the town launched its bus system, the ridership has more than doubled.

An average day now sees about 60 to 75 riders, says Crispin Bottomley, transit coordinator for Community Transport Group, the company that has taken over as the service provider for Niagara-on-the-Lake Transit.

Some are students heading from town to Niagara College, some are people who work on Queen St. and are coming from St. Catharines or Niagara Falls by bus and catching the NOTL shuttle at the college's Glendale campus.

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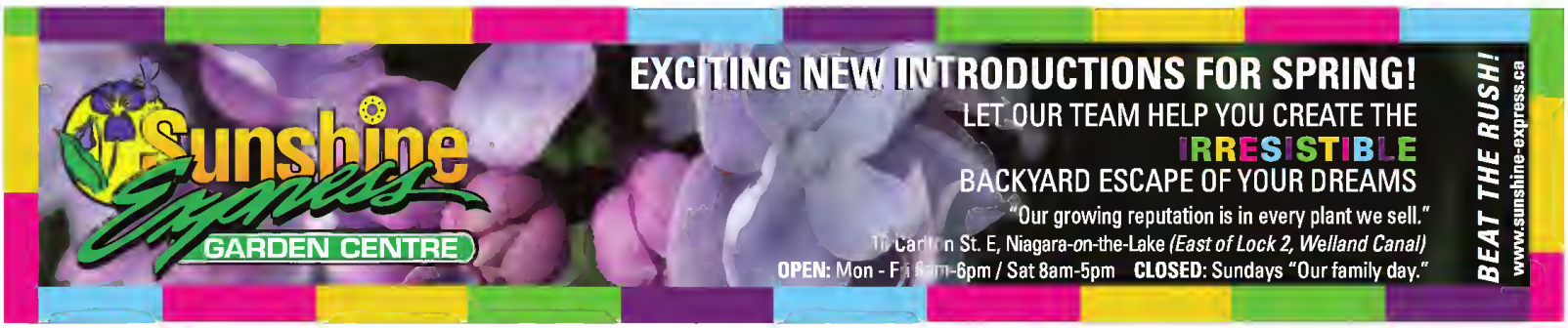

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Bus service creates 'opportunities'

From Page 1

There are people from St. Catharines who ride their bikes to their job at a store or winery in town, and at the end of their work day, put the bike on the bus bike rack, take the bus to Niagara College, and ride home from there, said Bottomley.

There's a professor who lives in the Old Town and takes the bus to work daily at Niagara College. Last summer, there was a Virgil babysitter who took the kids in her charge to Memorial Park for swimming lessons, he said.

Old Town residents go to Virgil to shop. Young people who live in town but have jobs in Niagara Falls or St. Catharines use the town bus to connect with city buses.

And international students studying at Niagara College are renting rooms from seniors in the Old Town and taking the bus to school, he says.

The trip from the community centre to Niagara College is just 30 minutes - for those arriving or leaving town on a Niagara Falls or St. Catharines city bus, the NOTL portion is probably the shortest part of their trip, he says.

The new outdoor mall at Glendale has also helped to increase ridership - the NOTL bus stops at the mall, as does the regional bus, providing another connection with other municipalities.

The route is limited to the number of stops that can be accomplished within the one-hour loop, says Bottomley.

Many councillors, as well as Lord Mayor Pat Darte, promised to look at extending the service during last fall's election campaign - it was one of the questions most often raised by voters, especially those living in Queenston and St. Davids.

As a result, town staff is looking at the feasibility of expanding service to those two areas.

A report on possible expansion is expected to go to council in May, says Town spokesperson Dawn McInnis.

There have also been discussions of expanding service to the St. Catharines Hospital and to GO stations in both St. Catharines and Niagara Falls, with a report expected to go to council in September, she said.

There are 10 loops a day from the Old Town to Niagara College, said Bottomley.

During the summer, the number of buses that travel from Fort George to the Court House doubles to accommodate the increased use of the shuttle during the high season.

The Niagara Parks Commission also sends its WEGO bus from the Floral Clock to Fort George, bringing more people to NOTL who can then take the town bus to the Court House.

In its first year of service, town buses had 7,552 riders. The number increased to 9,166 the second year, and to 16,819 in year three, says McInnis - a 123% increase.

Fares continue to be $3 per person, children under five years old riding for free.

The increase in ridership overall can be attributed partly to an increased awareness of people who are learning about the town buses and where they go, and partly to opportunities that exist because of the bus service, such as college students renting rooms in the Old Town, said Bottomley.

The total operating cost of the service for 2013 was $399,849, offset by fares, parking meter revenue and provincial gas tax funding. The net cost to the municipality in 2013 was "roughly $15,000," McInnis said.

NOTL's hourly contract rate of $54.60 plus a fuel surcharge of $55.28, is low compared to other similar municipal transit providers, she says, and is based on a contract for 7,233 vehicle hours, with two renewal periods, expiring December 2017 and December 2020.

A report will go to council approving the contract April , she said - it was before council March 23 but was deferred until April 13 so staff could look at the ability to make route changes.

As for the future, "We continue to assess current needs and look to improve efficiencies within the system," said McInnis.

Call the Town to check the daily bus schedule and connections to other municipalities.

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Coun. Paolo Miele puts aside time for talking

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Paolo Miele, one of the first-time councillors elected to serve in Niagara-on-the-Lake, is fulfilling one of his election promises of being accessible to residents.

The local business owner is taking two hours every other Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. to meet with people at the town hall - call ahead or show up, he says.

He's there to talk about problems and solutions, he says.

While he's happy to hear about issues residents may have with the Town, he's also hoping some may come to him with ideas or solutions to some of the problems in Town.

"There are lots of smart people in this town. I'd like to hear them - I'm like the employer's comment box. If you have something to say, share it with me. The doors are open. Let's get working," says Miele.

"if I see something wrong, and there's a common-sense way to fix it, then let's fix it, and quickly. Let's make things happen."

Coun. Paolo Miele will be in the Town Hall council chamber April 15 to talk to residents.

One hour seven minutes by bus to new hospital

With the NOTL Hospital closed, how difficult is it to get from the Old Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake to the new St. Catharines Hospital on Fourth Ave.?

Not that difficult if you know the bus schedules, says Crispin Bottomley, transit co-ordinator for Community Transport Group, the company that has taken over as the service provider for Niagara-on-the-Lake Transit.

A Niagara-on-the-Lake resident would have to be able to reach an existing bus stop first.

The route the buses run along Niagara Stone Rd. from Old Town to Virgil and on to Niagara College has changed slightly over the three years since NOTL Transit got rolling, says Bottomley, but what it can do is based on an hour loop from the community centre to the Glendale campus and back again.

The first bus of the day leaves the community centre for its hour loop at 7:42 a.m., and very 60 minutes after that until the last bus of the day heads to the Glendale campus of Niagara College at 5:42 p.m., and each bus arrives at the college at 18 minutes past the hour.

The departure time is based on making a connection to the St. Catharines city bus, which goes to the St. Catharines downtown terminal. From there, a bus goes through Port Dalhousie to the Fourth Ave. hospital site, says Bottomley.

The trip involves three buses, a total of $6 each way - $3 to NOTL and $3 to the St. Catharines transit system, and an hour and 7 minutes.

The number of St. Catharines city buses going to the Glendale campus will be reduced April 24, because of the number of students traveling to the college, so although there will be "fewer opportunities" to get the bus to the hospital, Bottomley says, with the correct scheduling information passengers will still be able to make the trip there and back in a little more than an hour each way.

For more information about scheduling call 905-468-3266, or visit www.notl.org.

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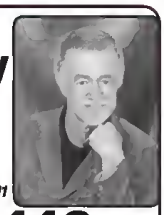

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Palliative, respite care require partnerships

Randy Klaassen
Special to the Advance

What are the chances of a hospice centre in Niagara-on-the-Lake?

With the closing of the hospital, and questions being raised about the future of Upper Canada Lodge, that question was on the mind of those who attended the second session of the NOTL Health Services Steering Committee, held at Grace United Church Tuesday and hosted by Rev. Laura Borgerson.

The topic was hospice and palliative care, and the speakers were Terry Mactaggart and Carol Nagy. Mactaggart is the program coordinator of NOTL's Palliative Care Service, which she refers to as "a small but big-hearted group of volunteers."

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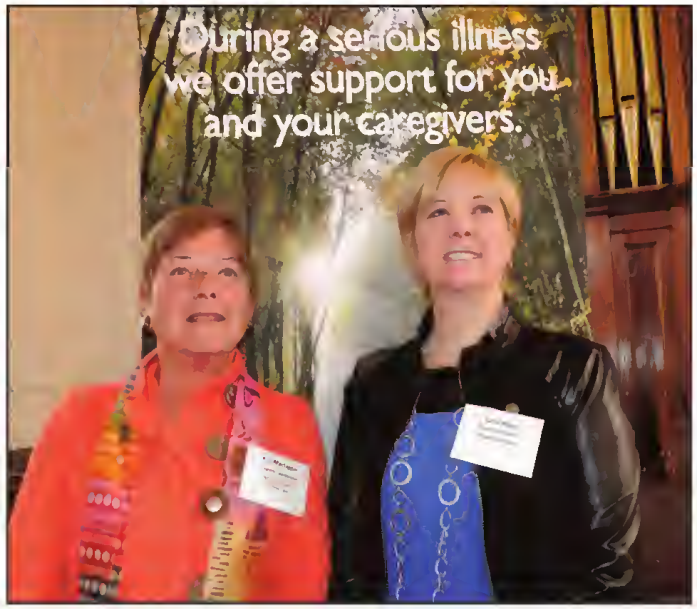

Randy Klaassen Special to the Advance

Terry Mactaggart and Carol Nagy discuss palliative and respite care at a NOTL Health Care steering committee information session at Grace United Church recently.

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Hospice facilities too expensive for small communities

From Page 4

Nagy, the executive director of Hospice Niagara, began the session by acknowledging it was the day of the hospital closure. Given the important role the hospital has had for the community, she said, it seemed appropriate to be addressing the topic of care for the dying.

Palliative care, Nagy said, "begins at the time of diagnosis, and stays involved with a family for up to a year after a death."

It focuses on caring, not on curing, she added.

Caregivers work toward improving the quality of life, with the goal of helping people achieve what they want to do before they die..

Working with a community base of volunteers, Mactaggart described the training palliative care providers undertake. While the personal interaction is basic, volunteers are also knowledgeable about equipment that can make it possible to deal with serious illness at home. The service also has a family studio apartment available to assist in hosting out of town family members of clients.

Describing the broader-based regional services of Hospice Niagara, Nagy outlined benefits to a patient-centered team approach to health care, sparing patients from having to repeat themselves to health service providers, or from repeated medical tests. In a team approach service providers collaborate to offer the best care possible for patients.

While it was acknowledged as desirable for every community to have its own hospice facility, the reality is operational costs are beyond the reach of most small communities, Nagy said. In emphasizing the benefits of a team approach it was noted that a "stand alone" hospice centre is not viable, and that providing quality care requires partnerships. To access services of Hospice Niagara call 905-984-8766, or NOTL Palliative Care at 905-468-4433. Anyone can call for an assessment. Services are provided free of charge.

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our editorial

NOTL lucky to have buses, but residents ready for better service

The fact that a municipality the size of Niagara-on-the-Lake has a transit system at all, never mind one that runs efficiently and at a reasonable cost, is really quite remarkable.

The small shuttles that are in use and the routes that were chosen to initiate the system were perfect for a fledgling transit system. Staff from the Town and from the service provider have shown how a partnership can work well to the benefit of the municipality and its residents.

However it was obvious from comments during the last municipal election campaign that there are many residents who are not able to avail themselves of the transit service, but would like to.

There are no buses travelling to Queenston and St. Davids, and there are residents in those villages who would like to be able to access the transit system they help subsidize through their taxes.

Similarly, those who live in Virgil and the Old Town need to be within walking distance of Niagara Stone Rd. to reach a bus stop. There is no doubt ridership could be much higher if buses were accessible to a greater area.

Of course that comes at a cost, but we're confident the Town will arrive at a solution to provide an expanded service to at least some of the neighbourhoods in town not on a bus route now.

It's been shown a small municipality, with the right partner, can run an efficient transit service. Now it's time to look at expanding it and making it even better.

Thanks to Kinsmen for another great egg hunt

Ken Slingerland of the NOTL Kinsmen was at the Kinsmen Easter Egg Hunt Saturday at the NOTL community centre, with Crystal the Easter Bunny, handing out prizes to the four lucky youngsters who found 'special' eggs. Photo submitted

letters to the editor

Thanks to churches for supporting farm workers

On behalf of the CWOP (Caribbean Workers Outreach Project) I would like to thank St. Vincent de Paul, St. Mark's, Grace United and St. Andrews for supporting us with their Lenten lunches and Good Friday offerings.

Their generosity will be put to good use. CWOP has been offering their services for 23 years in our community. Their mandate is to provide Sunday night services for the workers during May and June.

We also bring two Jamaican ministers to Canada at that time to visit workers on the farms to supply encouragement.

A cricket match will be held June 7 between Niagara and Vineland workers.

Everyone in the community is welcome to attend the services which are held at Bethany Mennonite Church or to take in the cricket match.

Once again a big thank you to all.

Nancy Howse–King

Garden of Hope visible in Queenston

Starting to see other signs of spring

Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

I saw a gold finch at the weekend - so the saying "yellow flowers, yellow birds" certainly was not running true this year.

Oh, there are some signs - I see the shoots are up several inches at our daffodil Garden of Hope in Queenston (at the fire hall).

There is a slight difference in temperature at the bottom of the escarpment and things are slightly ahead. We have some green at the community center too so we are getting there.

For those of you who are just dying to get at your lawn - do a 'walkabout' first. Pick up any big stuff and look out for any crabgrass - it is lighter in colour. But just the thought that one plant can make thousands of seeds, makes us want to eliminate any possibility of its survival.

Rake to help open the soil to breath and dry out then follow the directions on whatever fertilizer you have found works best for you. I know there are a lot of gardeners who spread soil over their lawns, and I have never understood this practice, as it all flies away as dust when they cut the lawn...

My cannas are potted up, and I cut some up (you have to make sure there is an 'eye' in each part) and I hope I can tell by the leaves which is which. It will be so nice to have something growing.

There is a scad of some green in some wooded areas and I notice some orchards being pruned so life is returning - how long will it take before we complain about everything growing too quickly?

I have some more milkweed seed, and now is a good time to plant it, so if you would like some call in at Regal Florist in Virgil and you can pick up a packet - then we can watch out for the monarchs.

Keep the bird feeders filled as the birds are ahead of us this year.

opinion

letters to the editor

Hort society members support ban of neonicotinoids

The members of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticultural Society would like to respond to an article published in major newspapers in late January, Getting the Facts Straight on Honey Bees.

The article was apparently prepared by the Farmers of Ontario and was supported by CropLife Canada, a lobby group representing several large chemical and seed manufacturers.

They are lobbying the government not to ban neonicotinoids, which are insecticides. As bees, birds and humans are all ingesting neonicotinoids, we urge the Ontario government to act prudently.

One claim in the article suggests that honeybee colonies are increasing: in fact, last winter beekeepers in Ontario lost 58% of their hives.

In order to keep up with the demand for honey, these beekeepers must purchase bee packages from other provinces or countries to replace their losses.

Another claim is that honey production has increased and the honey industry is bigger than ever.

But to meet demand, the honey producers often supplement their supply with honey from other places.

According to the Ontario Bee Association "honey production is down 40% since 2003". There is a trade deficit of $15 million due to lack of safe bee pastures and the "inability of pesticide-weakened colonies to meet current demand".

The article also states that England and Australia have concluded there is no risk to bee populations from neonicotinoids. Interesting that the EU has placed a ban on the use of neonicotinoids and found that in test studies the yield of corn and sunflower crops was better and in some places 25% better in the years after the ban.

Neonicotinoids are produced in Germany, but they are banned in Germany and France. The biggest customers are in North America.

While it is misleading to think that this insecticide always kills bees outright, it is evident that its use compromises the bees' immune systems and their navigational skills.

Obviously, neonicotinoids are not the sole problem of bee stress. Big farming practices, such as, elimination of crop rotation, elimination of plant diversity and the use of many different insecticides and sprays all contribute to the damage to our bee, butterfly and bird populations.

Neonicotinoids are also being sprayed on ornamental plants, so the flowers and vegetables in your own garden are not safe for consumption.

Ask at your garden center whether your plants have been sprayed before you buy. If no one can tell you, don't buy there. Neonicotinoids create neurological damage and they don't easily wash away.

Our environment is already suffering from the amount of pesticides already in use. While recognizing insecticides are part a necessary part of current farming practices, we need to improve how they are tested.

We should not be relying solely on tests done in a laboratory by the large self-interested manufacturing companies. Testing in the fields to detect the subtle effects and impact on wild and domesticated populations of bees and other wildlife is essential. We urge the province of Ontario to ban the use of neonicotinoids until the results of further tests are known.

Dave Goulson, a professor of Biology at the University of Sussex, is one of the world's leading experts on the impact of neonicotinoids on bees.

Two of his arresting questions to the public are: What other chemicals has the industry been telling the farmers they need, when they actually don't? How much of insecticide use is based on evidence and how much on marketing hype/sales pressure? Save the pollinators, birds and help save us from ourselves.

For interested readers, we refer you to articles online by Professor Dave Goulson, http://splash.sussex.ac.uk/blog/for/dg229; NOW magazine, Feb. 17, 2015; Ontario Beekeepers Association (ontariobee.com); Health Canada (hc-fc.ggc.ca – search for neonicotinoids); and-George Scott (Niagara Beeway).

Marla Percy
Liz Senson
on behalf of
The NOTL Horticultural Society

Response to health care analysis disquieting, unwarranted, says reader

Your article on Dr. John Lister's report on the Niagara Health System (Niagara Advance, April 2, 2015) is disquieting, not just because of his analysis but equally due to the responses of Drs. Smith and Stewart and Mayor Jim Diodati (of Niagara Falls) which were particularly unfortunate.

Dr. Lister has impressive credentials and raises quite legitimate concerns which he would appear eminently well-qualified to do.

To describe him as "a hired gun from another country" who is for "hire ... to give ... an opposing point of view ..." is unwarranted, insulting and in no way constructive.

Dr. Lister has previously collaborated with academics in Canada and has addressed meetings and conferences on health policy in Canada (and elsewhere internationally).

Whether you agree with his analysis or not, I doubt that he would prostitute his reputation for an honorarium of $1,500!

Drs. Smith and Stewart's responses are more measured – but disappointing and not confidence-inspiring.

Dr. Smith's commitment to consultation and transparency in his 2012 report was encouraging.

However, faced with very specific concerns about its comprehensiveness and implementation, we are reassured that "... markers of our quality and financial sustainability continue to improve" and "we are headed in the right direction".

These comments may well be true but in no way address Dr. Lister's contentions – and do not constitute "transparency."

Transparency means directly responding to Dr. Lister's concerns and making public the progress of specific "markers of our quality and financial sustainability" – sufficient to provide convincing evidence that health care outcomes are improving.

I am not unsympathetic to the task faced by Drs. Smith and Stewart. They have to work within the constraints of a health care system which is, after the U.S., probably the most cost-inefficient in the world.

Compared to 12 countries (Australia and 11 in Western Europe) with similar GDP per capita, universal health care systems and similar per capita spending on health care, Canada is the fifth-highest spender but, compared to their average, employs 25% fewer doctors and 10% fewer nurses per capita, provides 50% fewer hospital beds per capita and has occupancy rates of acute care beds 20% higher – and the worst ratios of any.

(Not, then, surprisingly) Canada's performance rankings in four international studies are also at or near the bottom of this group.

In this context, where cost control seems focused on "frontline" services to patients (rather than addressing more significant contributors to cost inefficiency), it must be difficult to make progress. However, simply ignoring Dr. Lister's points, issuing non-specific blandishments or taking cheap shots is not reassuring.

Thomas H. Stanton (Fellow of the Centre for Advanced Government Studies at the Johns Hopkins University who served on the staff of the U.S. Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission in 2010/11) has written a seminal work on the power of what he calls "constructive dialogue".

He found that the U.S. financial institutions that survived the 2008/9 financial crisis engaged in "Robust decision-making with plenty of feedback before reaching closure on major issues ..."

Those that did not failed.

As Prof. Stanton observes, "... decision-makers may be hampered by misleading prejudgements, inappropriate self-interest, or inappropriate attachments, all of which can lead to flawed decisions."

The successful firms "... encourage group debate and challenge to ensure that opposing points of view have been heard and understood."

Dr. Lister's contribution should be welcomed and seriously considered for its value in this respect.

Prof. Stanton expands on his findings in the financial to other sectors, including health care, to "... provide lessons about organization, governance, and management of ... organizations more generally, and the need to strengthen the institutions upon which all of us depend for our safety and economic well-being."

Ignore Prof. Stanton's and Dr. Lister's warnings at our peril.

Peter G M Cox

VBA gearing up for second concert kick–off

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The arena will be rocking for the second annual kick-off concert - this one to be held in the arena instead of at the mercy of the May long weekend weather.

Last year's Virgil Stampede was launched with a Kim Mitchell concert outdoors, and was an "amazing" evening of entertainment, says Virgil Business Association secretary Marcia Penner.

The event was well-organized and went off without a hitch, with the exception of the weather making for a very cold evening and scaring off ticket purchasers.

To keep up the concert momentum the VBA decided on another concert kick-off, this one with local musicians and a wide range of musical styles and genres by three Niagara bands, presented in the Meridian Credit Union Arena.

This event will be a little "safer" than last year's, says Penner, in that it won't be in jeopardy because of bad weather and it won't be as much of an expense to stage inside.

It will be an over-19 event, with beer, wine and food for sale.

The three bands booked are The Kerouacs, The Figure Four and Renegade, all bands with their own followings and seen most often at local events and bars.

A maximum of 1,200 tickets will be sold for the licensed event - The NOTL Kinsmen will be serving the alcohol.

Tickets will be $12 if purchased prior to the event, and $20 at the door, while beer and wine will be $5, and local restaurants will be providing the food.

The concert is Friday, May 15, from 7 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Penner's Building Centre, the Meridian Credit Union, Phil's Valumart, Niagara Motors and Simpson's Pharmacy.

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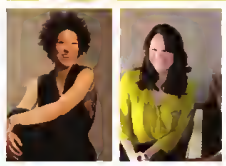
Bravo niagara! FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2015 7:30 PM

7:30 PM
SOPRANO
Julia Bullock
'ravishingly visceral' —THE NEW YORK TIMES
WITH PIANIST Renate Rohlfing
SPRING INTO MUSIC @ STRATUS
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015

2:00 PM
MOTHER-DAUGHTER CONCERT PIANISTS
Mari Kodama and
Karin Kei Nagano
'commanding and electrifying'
—L.A. TIMES

8:00 PM
MICHAEL BUBLÉ'S LEAD JAZZ TRUMPETER
Jumaane Smith
I Only Have Eyes For You is "An essential album. definitive and timeless"
—PRESIDENT, SMOOTHJAZZ.COM GLOBAL RADIO
FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION, VISIT BRAVONIAGARA.ORG OR CALL 289-868-9177
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Renegade, one of Niagara's dance party bands, is best known for performing big classic rock songs, but also keeps everyone dancing all night with Top 40, funk, disco, and even a few country tunes. Renegade appears often around the region at casinos, clubs, corporate events, and private functions, and will be the headlining act at the Virgil Stampede kick-off Friday, May 15.

FIND IT FOR LE$$ in the classifieds

ONE PIANO + FOUR HANDS = ANOTHER FANTASTIC MUSIC NIAGARA CONCERT!

STRIDE PIANO
SUNDAY APRIL 12 . 2 PM

With Stephanie Trick and Paolo Alderighi
In the great tradition of Art Tatum and Fats Waller - as entertaining as it is tricky, now made more dazzling on one piano with four hands!

TICKETS $17.50 IN ADVANCE, CALL 905.468.5566,
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1882 Niagara Stone Road, Virgil Located next to the Medical Centre
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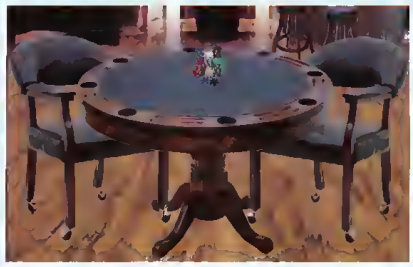
The cold could not stop children from attending the 7th Annual Niagara-on-the-Green Easter Egg Hunt Saturday morning. NOTL firefighters from the Glendale Station and Tammy McCarthy from ReMax Garden City organized the event. With Sparky are the winners of the secret egg hunt, Ann Chen, Summer Carter, Connor Visser and Faith Whyte.

4 BIG DAYS!
DRAWS & PRIZES!
IN-STORE DAILY

FAMILY RECREATION CENTRE

OPEN HOUSE

SPECIAL HOURS
April 9th - 12th
Thursday & Friday
9am - 8pm
Saturday 9am - 5pm
Sunday 11am - 4pm



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905-641-0841 • www.familyrec.com
Special Hours: April 9th - 12th • Thursday to Friday 9am - 8pm • Saturday 9am - 5pm • Sunday 11am - 4pm

A World War One
TAVERN NIGHT

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF FORT GEORGE & PARKS CANADA AS WE COMMEMORATE THE CENTENARY OF WW1. THIS SOCIAL EVENING WILL INCLUDE PERIOD GAMES, ENTERTAINMENT, DOOR PRIZES, LIGHT FARE, AND MORE!

SPECIAL GUESTS: IAN BELL AND TOM LEIGHTON WILL BE PERFORMING SONGS AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FROM THE ERA OF THE GREAT WAR.

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2015
7:00 PM AT NAVY HALL
TICKETS: $25.00/ PERSON

For tickets and information call:
905-468-6621 or email:
admin@friendsoffortgeorge.ca

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15550 NIAGARA PARKWAY | $1,950,000
With magnificent curb appeal this recently remodeled 5,000 sq ft 5 bedroom country estate offers all one could ever want for luxurious living on the famed Niagara Parkway.
Perry Quinn* 905-468-4214

14704 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY | $799,000
Rambling Ranch on prestigious Niagara Parkway with exceptional landscaping. A spacious 2800 square feet with fabulous master suite including large sitting room with gas fire and built-ins with books shelves, TV and bar with access directly to the rear deck and patio area. Priced to sell and available for immediate occupancy
Kevan & James* O'Conner 905-468-7700**

2 RAIANA DRIVE, VIRGIL |$399,900
3+1 bdrm 3 bath 2 story home with attached garage in Virgil. Main floor open concept large kitchen/great room w/garden door with patio, den, laundry and 2pc powder. Great 2nd floor plan with huge master, 4 pc en-suite spa and double closets,2 good sized bdrms. Note Time
Katie Redekopp* 905-658-1564
Dan Stefels* 905-327-7438

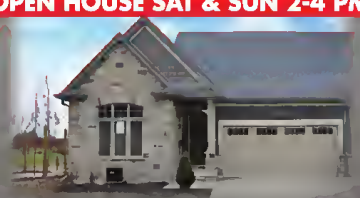
1773 TOWNLINE RD | $560,000
Overlooking orchards and Vineyard is this treasure, a 3+2 bedroom raised bungalow on a country setting overlooking a creek & orchards with double garage and barn with power.
Helen Mosca* 905-650-5669
Aaron Cherney* 905-401-7915

254 QUEEN ST | $3000/MO
Wood beams, vaulted ceilings, transom lights, a loft looking into the main living room. All recently painted in neutral colors. Very comfortable lodgings in the middle of Old Town.
Perry Quinn* 905-468-4214

6 CAMPBELL STREET | $1,185,000
Custom designed 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home with over 3500 sqft of living space. Wood burning fireplace, gourmet kitchen, main floor master bedroom & finished basement.
Michelle Reynolds* 905-468-4214

13.4 ACRE SITE | $1,695,000
Large, prime site available. Located just outside the Old Town on the north corner of Line 1. Zoning on this site permits an estate home on the Parkway with a farm winery off Line 1
Kevan& James* O'Conner 905-468-7700**

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 2-4 PM



2 COBBLESTONE DR., ST. DAVIDS | $495,500
Grey Forest Homes' newest collection of bungalow towns. 2 bdrm 2 bath, main floor laundry, open concept, Elmwood kitchen. Off of Tanbark Rd., near Warner Rd. Variety of floor plans available with prices starting from $345,000.
Katie Redekopp*905-658-1564

OPEN HOUSE SUN 2-4 PM

230 FOUR MILE CREEK RD. | $529,000
Custom built 1.5 storey home. Vaulted ceilings, open loft overlooking main floor, Georgian pine floors. 2100 sqft with double attached garage.
Jo Ann Cudmore* 905-321-8126

760 WARNER RD. | $225,000
Cute bungalow on a large lot with plenty of potential. Perfect first home for a young couple, an income property opportunity, or possibly purchase with a future rebuild in mind. Deep treed lot situated in the heart of St. David's in a quiet neighborhood at the headwaters of Four Mile Creek.
Kevan & James* O'Conner 905-468-7700**

FOR LEASE

ST. DAVIDS $2,000 | $2,300
For rent, a luxury townhouse condo in St Davids. 2 bedroom, 2 bathrooms with upgrades galore including a gorgeous kitchen and hardwood floors throughout. Available immediately for medium or long term lease. Price is depending on term.
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ADVANCE Notices

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FISH FRY

Public Welcome
Take Out Available
Every Thursday 4:30 - 7:30
New Members Welcome
Royal Canadian Legion
Branch # 124, 410 King Street, NOTL
Hall Rental Available.

FAMILY APRIL FISH FRY

Every Friday in April ~ 4:30 - 7 pm
(take out available)
1-Pc $8, 2-Pc $10, 3-pc $12

Price includes: Coleslaw, bread, french fries, baked potato, ice cream, coffee/tea. Alcohol Available.

Fish Fry
Leave the cooking to us!

Lions Club Hall, 1462 York Road, St.Davids

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE CONSERVANCY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Guest Speaker
Lord Mayor, Pat Darte @ 2 pm
Sunday, April 12th - 2 pm
Addison Hall, St. Mark's Church
41 Byron Street, NOTL
For more info, please call:
Gracia Janes @ 905-468-2841

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP 137

Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 7 to 9 pm

BARBARA HALL:
"Human Rights and Canada's Native People"

Amnesty International's special guest **Barbara Hall** (Mayor of Toronto, 1994-1997, Chief Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission, 2005-2015, Honorary Witness, Truth & Reconciliation Commission, 2012) will provide an inside look at the work of the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission**, a federal body charged with investigating Canada's scandalous treatment of native people by the residential school system. ALL WELCOME!

- **NOTL Community Centre "Simpson Room"**
  14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-On-The-Lake

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NOTL Newcomers Club invites women who have moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake within the past 3 years to join our dynamic group of nearly 250 women. For info contact:
Irene Rutt at 905-933-5014
irenemrutt@gmail.com / notlnewcomers.com

HALLER'S POLISH ARMY IN FRANCE 1917 - 1921

a lecture by Paul Valasek

Thursday, April 16th - 7:30 pm
$10 or free for Society members.

CALL 905-468-3912
Niagara Historical Museum, 43 Castlereagh St.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH – HOMER

163 Queenston Rd., (Homer Bridge)
SPRING LUNCHEON
Wednesday, April 29
12:00 pm
Advance Tickets Only $15
905-934-2496

Place your Coming Event / Community Calendar Social here, with or without a border, Colour, Graphics optional. Include your Logo!

Deadline: Monday 5 pm
Call Anna at 905-468-3283 ext 102

Pack up your Troubles at Navy Hall tavern night

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Some of the best-known songs from the First World War, both military marching music and popular tunes from that era, will be played at Navy Hall at a tavern night, recreating a social evening of the early 20th century.

A World War One Tavern Night: From the Home Front to the Western Front has been organized by The Friends of Fort George and Parks Canada, to commemorate the 100t anniversary of the war.

Musicians Ian Bell and Tom Leighton will be performing period music, including the use of instruments from that era, in the style of a "small-town patriotic concert," says Friends executive director Amanda Gamble.

The duo have performed this "lively and touching mixture of music" several times in recent months, says Leighton, finding the music favorably received at museums and other commemorations of the anniversary of the war.

Some of the pieces are very familiar, some less so, he says - they are all of that era, and Bell, he added, has unearthed some "very pretty pieces, gems not often heard," to go along with the classics of the times everyone recognizes, such as Nola, Pack up your Troubles and It's a Long Way to Tipperary.

The program features patriotic ditties, marching songs, piano rags, accordion novelties and sentimental favourites played on piano, concertina, banjo, button accordion and guitar.

See Page 13

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Period games accompany music

From Page 12

"It's very lively, representative of the music of the times. It's a lovely little concert," says Leighton.

Bell, he says, is a great storyteller, and his introductions to the songs they play "leave people craving to hear more."

Navy Hall will be decorated with World War One propaganda posters for the evening, and other items from the era. The Friends of Fort George will also be selling Fort George victory bonds, with proceeds helping to support student employment opportunities at Fort George.

The evening will also include Parks Canada costumed interpreters, a cash bar, light fare, period games and door prizes.

Silversmith Brewing Company will be serving up some great drinks with a portion of the proceeds going to the Friends of Fort George.

The Tavern Night begins at 7 p.m. April 18. Tickets are $25 and can be purchased from the Friends of Fort George by calling 905-468-6621 or by email to admin@friendsoffortgeorge.ca.

Bell is a Canadian folk musician, composer, and singer-songwriter who has been active in the Canadian folk music scene since the 1970s, and was part of the Canadian folk group Muddy York. He has been contributing to the preservation of Canadian folk music for more than 25 years.

A multi-instrumentalist, Leighton plays piano, accordion, accordion bass, bouzouki, bodhran, whistles, jaw harps, mandolin and trombone.

Tom Leighton and Ian Bell will be performing First World War-era music at Navy Hall at an event set up as a tavern night, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the war.

Photo submitted

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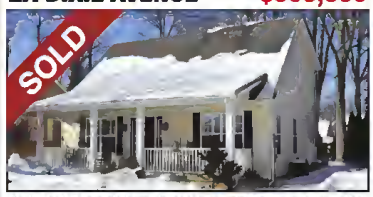
15 ELIZABETH STREET $589,000

Classic brick bungalow located in the original part of "The Village" offering convenient main floor living. Features include hardwood flooring, gas fireplaces, granite kitchen countertops, walkouts to backyard & garage, large windows, vaulted ceilings, main floor master suite, main floor laundry and upper loft area with bed and bath for guests. **MLS# N30035558 Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft.**

249 TANBARK ROAD $464,900

An immaculate family home in the heart of St. Davids featuring a spacious living and dining area leading to a tiered cedar deck into the large backyard. The updated kitchen boasts granite countertops and a bar top for dining and entertaining. Updates abound with beautiful main level hardwood flooring and new lighting fixtures. The lower level boasts a family and games area with a fireplace and walk-up to the outdoors. Walking distance to school, park and wineries. **MLS# N30044367. Christine Bruce**

2A DIXIE AVENUE $569,000



Quality built 8 year old home located in popular Chautauqua area offers convenient main floor living with 2 upper bedrooms and bath and also a full basement ready to be finished. Features of this lovingly cared for home include Strewn bamboo flooring, character wood trim, gas fireplace, granite kitchen countertops, French doors to back deck, vaulted ceilings and open concept design. **Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft.**

26 CONFEDERATION DRIVE $369,000

An extremely well maintained 4 bedroom + 2 bath Garrison Village home. Gleaming hardwood floors and spacious kitchen on main floor. Bright lower level family room with gas fireplace is great for entertaining. **Thomas Elltoft and Viviane Elltoft.**

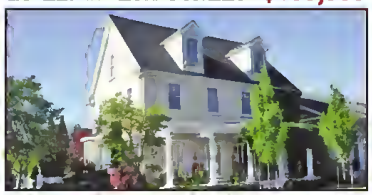
5 HARMONY DRIVE $624,900

Stunning French country bungalow with open concept living. 2 + 1 bedrooms, plus a den, 3 bathrooms. Relax in the Great room by the fireplace or entertain in style in the spacious dining room. The gourmet cook's kitchen boasts a gas stove and large centre island. 3420 sq. ft. of beautifully finished living space which includes the lower level featuring a fabulous family room. A lovely covered porch and large deck provide space for relaxation or for casual entertaining outdoors. Enjoy a location within easy walking distance to the centre of town, theatres, dining and wineries. **MLS# N30041484. Chris Bowron and Audrey Wright.**

8 EVERGREEN LANE $565,900

Showcasing quality built freehold townhomes consisting of 18 units complementing the historic surrounds of Niagara on the Lake. This luxury townhome is located in a prime location of old town close to shops, theatres, restaurants and walking trails. High end finishes include hardwood on main floor, granite countertops in kitchen and main floor bathrooms, tiled and glass main floor bathrooms, interlocked driveways and professional landscaping. **Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft. MLS# N30040012**

27 ELIZABETH STREET $499,000



Exquisite home designed by award winning architect, Les Andrews. Over 2300 square ft. of beautiful living space finished with exceptional detail. Wide plank flooring and 21 wall sconces through-out provide a warm ambiance. Unique features include, Travertine stone gas fireplace, antique light fixtures from France and Italy, 2 stained glass windows circa 1850, and reclaimed fireplace mantel circa 1852. A must see! MLS# N30035390. **Chris Bowron & Audrey Wright**

1387 LINE 3 ROAD $1,329,000

This gorgeous estate property offers the ultimate in country living. Kentucky feel in the heart of Niagara. Over 5 acres of pristine property featuring a beautiful main bungalow home with attached garage, large barn, 9 stall beautiful shop with heating, large stocked natural pond, children's playhouse, natural stone outdoor fireplace with large outdoor patio. This home represents the ultimate to any car, garden or horse farm enthusiast. **MLS# N30036388. Bonnie Grimm.**

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20 BUNNY GLEN DRIVE
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249 TANBARK ROAD

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FRESH STOREMADE, ASSORTED VARIETIES
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LEAN GROUND PORK
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FAMILY PACK
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FAMILY PACK
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AGED TO PERFECTION!

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COMBINATION PORK LOIN CHOPS
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FAMILY PACK
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International piano sensation Valentina Lisitsa hosted a Piano Party Saturday, complete with on-stage seating, tweeting and even the opportunity to vote on Valentina's program, at the Centre for the Arts at Brock University, presented in partnership with Bravo Niagara! and the new St. Catharines Performing Arts Centre.
Photo by Alex Heidbuechel of Bravo Niagara

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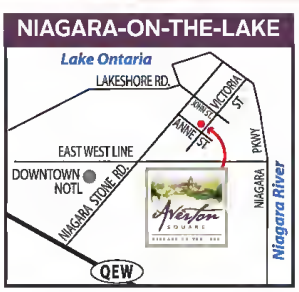

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Niagara culinary students win Amazing Duck Race

QMI Agency Niagara

Niagara College culinary students Katherine Kidnie and Jung Haan You are winners of this year's King Cale Ducks Ltd. Great Amazing Duck Race.

Nine teams of Ontario's top culinary students participated in the event Saturday, for which tap prize was $500 per student.

Niagara College's Canadian Faad and Wine Institute team prepared appetizers of a pulled duck pat sticker with sweet and sour sauce, a duck bacon and egg breakfast with pickled market vegetables and soutbern fried duck liver with caramelized onions and apples.

Their entree featured cinnaman smaked duck breast, toasted coriander arange duck leg, butternut squash puree, farmers market vegetables and cherry sauce.

The Great Amazing Duck Race is described as an ultimate farm-to-fork recipe competition that takes students thraugh the experience of collecting duck eggs, showcasing knife skills in King Cole's federal plant, visiting the company's Newmarket hamestead, racing to Toronto, shopping for ingredients at St. Lawrence market and then coaking their masterpieces at George Brown College.

Amang judges of the final dishes were chef Brad Long of Café Belong, faad jaurnalist Lucy Waverman and King Cole Ducks CEO Debbi Canzelmann.

A team from George Brown placed second while a team fram Fanshawe College placed third.

See Page 24

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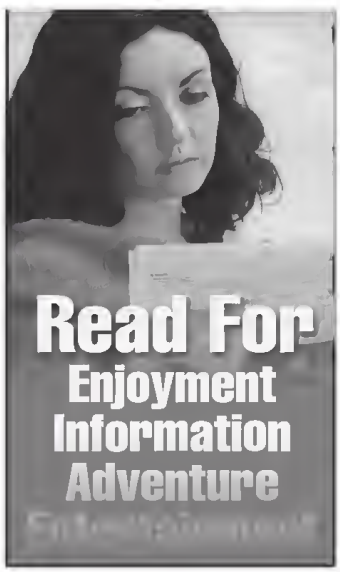

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DECLARES A 20% REFUND ON 2014 PREMIUMS

Front row from left to right, Racheal Siciliano (General Manager/CEO), Larry Hipple (President of the Board) receiving a refund cheque from Lloyd Roseboom (Vice-President of the Board), Domenic Ioannoni (Director) and David Gill (Director). Back row from left to right, John Dekker (Director), David Wiley (Director), Phillip Lambert (Director), Brian Heaslip (Director) and Howard Augustine (Director) at Bertie and Clinton's head office.

Bertie and Clinton is a local Mutual Insurance Company that specializes in providing farm insurance to its owning members. By insuring with the company, you can also become a part owner and have a voice in how the company is run. Recently, the company declared a refund from surplus of 20% on property, liability and automobile premiums in 2014. Approximately $2,370,000 was refunded to the policyholders provided they had been insured for at least one year and their policy was in force at December 31, 2014. Bertie and Clinton has declared a refund from surplus in eighteen of the last twenty-two years and has provided insurance for the Niagara Peninsula residents since 1880.

The company is run by nine directors who are elected by the policyholders at the Annual meeting. Each of the nine directors are elected for a three year term, with three being elected each year. At our 135th Annual Meeting held March 31, 2015 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Fonthill, Brian Heaslip of Wellandport and Lloyd Roseboom of Port Colborne were re-elected as Directors and John Dekker of Port Colborne was also elected as a Director, for a three year term.

Larry Hipple of Beamsville was elected to serve the Company as the President of the Board and Lloyd Roseboom of Port Colborne will serve the Company as the Vice-President of the Board, for the 2015-2016 year. Racheal Siciliano of Welland is the General Manager/CEO.

On March 1, 2015, one of our Agents, Dale Hagar, began his well-deserved Retirement. Mr. Hagar was a Director on our Board from 1977 to 1986, serving as President of the Board in 1981. From 1986 to 2015, Mr. Hagar served as an Agent for Bertie and Clinton. We would like to thank Dale for his dedication to Bertie and Clinton Mutual and we wish him the very best on his Retirement. Judi Black of Welland has been hired as an Agent to service a portion of Mr. Hagar's Policyholders. We are also currently searching for another candidate to help in servicing Mr. Hagar's Policyholders who are currently being serviced by other Agents working from our Office.

We bave recently launched our newly redesigned Website and are bappy to provide an online credit card payment option. Please do visit our new website at www.bertieandclinton.com to see what we've done.

Bertie and Clinton Mutual has Agents throughout the Niagara Peninsula. If you require insurance on a Farm, Home, Auto or Commercial activities in the Niagara Peninsula, please contact us at;

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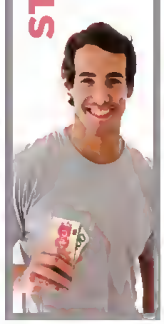

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All persons having claims as creditors against the estate of the above mentioned, late of the City of Niagara Falls, in the Region of Niagara, who died at the said City of Niagara Falls, on November 07, 2014, are required to file proof of same with the undersigned on or before May 28, 2015.

After that date the Public Guardian and Trustee will proceed to distribute the estate having regard only to the claims of which s/he then shall have had notice.

Anyone having knowledge of a Will or next-of-kin of the above mentioned is also requested to contact the undersigned.

DATED at Toronto on March 24, 2015.

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ALZHEIMER Society Niagara Region Brain Wave Cafe, meets third Monday of each month 1:30-3pm (except July & Aug) Alzheimer Society, 403 Ontario St. Unit #1 St. Catharines. 905-687-3914

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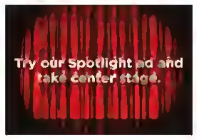

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Obituaries

NOVOSICKIS, Lydia (nee Trush) – Passed away peacefully, with grace and courage on Wednesday April 1, 2015 at Chateau Gardens, Niagara-on-the-Lake, at the age of 90. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Nick Novosickis. Cherished Mother of Elizabeth Ann and Eugene Nicholas. Dearest Grandmother of Julian, Jonas, Natalie, Timothy and Great-Grandmother of Jacob, Megan, Sarah and Isabelle. The family would like to thank the remarkable nurses and staff of Chateau Gardens and Dr. Brunner for their kindness & dedicated care. Cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME**, 415 Regent Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake. Condolences may be shared at:
www.morganfuneral.com

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PAHL, Erwin - On Friday, April 3, 2015, Erv passed away peacefully at the age of 72. Beloved husband and best friend of Sharyn of 47 years. Loving father of Greg and Jeremy (Kelly). Proud and cherished grandpa of Elyse. He was predeceased by his brother, sister and parents. By request, cremation has taken place. Visitation will take place at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 73 Picton St., Niagara-on-the-Lake on Thursday, April 9, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Memorial Mass to follow.
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In Memoriams

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Run or walk for Alzheimer's

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Andrea Brock grew up in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and when she and co-worker Steve Moran decided to organize a series of races - they're both runners - she couldn't think of a better location than the Old Town.

They wanted it to be for a good cause, and they both know friends and family members dealing with Alzheimer's so they are making their first event a fundraiser for the Niagara region Alzheimer Society.

Now a high school teacher in Oakville, Brock also sees the effects the disease has on students who have family members suffering from it, she says.

"You can see it wearing on them. It's frustrating upsetting, and very sad."

They are organizing a one-km family fun run, a five-km chip-timed marshalled walk and a five-km chip-timed run Saturday, April 25, beginning in Simcoe Park and running along the Niagara River Parkway to McFarland House and back.

There are "amazing prizes" from Nike for race winners, and silent auction and raffle items from fantastic local businesses, and loot bags for everyone that registers," says Brock.

Included in the silent auction items are Whirlpool Jet Boat tickets and Shaw Festival tickets.

The raffle and silent auction will help raise money for Alzheimer research.

There will also be an after-party at Cork's Winebar and Eatery on Queen St.

The run is the first of three in a Life Running Series, and to register online, or for more information, go to liferunning-series.com.

Bib numbers and race packages can be picked up at the Simcoe Park bandshell from 3 to 3:30 p.m.

The family fun run through the park begins at 3:45 p.m. Cost is $15.

The run begins at 4 p.m. and the competitive walk at 4:30 p.m., each with a registration fee of $50.

Andrea Brock, a new mother, stretches before getting back into running.
Photo submitted

Niagara-on-the-Lake Worship Directory

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH
1453 York Road, St. Davids
905-262-5242
www.stdavids-queenstonuc.ca
Minister: Rev Paul James
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Nursery and Sunday School
Come and celebrate God's love for us all

ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
41 Byron Street
Founded 1792
Sunday Services
8:30 am Holy Eucharist
10:30 am Choral Eucharist
Wednesday Service 10:00 am
905-468-3123
Rector: The Rev. Canon Dr. Robert S.G. Wright
www.stmarks1792.com

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905-468-0834 www.ca.bahai.org natlbahais@gmail.com

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St. Catharines
Sabbath Services 9:30 am - Kiddish follows
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jewishstcatharines.com

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
www.ccchurch.ca • 905-468-7155
Sunday, April 12th
10 am - Worship Gathering & Kids Ministry
(childcare provided mid-way through service)
Message by: Brian Rowaan
Title: To the Elders

Amazing Grace United Church
10:30 a.m. Sunday Service
Minister: Rev. Laura Borgerson
Director of Music: Esther Giesbrecht
222 Victoria Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-468-4044
www.graceunitedchurch.com

www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
ORCHARD PARK BIBLE CHURCH
434 Hunter Rd.
905-468-5731
Sunday, April 12th
9:30 am - Sunday School for ages 4 - 17
9:45 am - Adult Prayer Time
10:45 am - Message by Pastor Reid Cooke
"An Awakening Faith"
Childcare provided during service

life abundant niagara
Pastor Rick Mills
384 Concession 7 Rd
905 688 3958
Sunday, April 12th
current series
"The Beauty of Holiness"
Report From the Field: Remembering The Mistreated
Hebrews 13:3
9:30AM coffee 10:30AM worship
info@lifeabundantniagara.com
www.lifeabundantniagara.com

Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ In Our Community"
German Service - 10:00 am
Message by Hans H. Dau
Worship Service - 11:00 am
Message by Guest Speaker
PAUL SPATE of
Wholeness Through Christ
Pastors:
Rudy & Sharon Dirks,
Stephen Cox
1775 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

GateWay Community Church
(P.A.O.C.)
1665 Four Mile Creek Road
905-468-8971
Sunday, April 12th • 10:30 am
April Theme:
"God's Restorations"
Pastor Dave Tunikaitis Ministering
www.gatewaycc.ca:
Check here for events and podcasts.

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736 York Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-688-2525
Sunday, April 12th
10:00 am Coffee Time
10:30 am Worship Service
Village Kidz (ages 1 - grade 5)
The Generous Life:
Do You Live With A Closed Fist Or Open Hand?
Pastor Greg Alderton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

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2027 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-2611 or 905-468-9673
trinitynotl@cogeco.ca
10:00 am Worship Service
Pastor Larry Ritter

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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
905-468-3283, ext. 103 penny.coles@sunmedia.ca

Let the racing begin: Easter Sunday saw water and air temperatures of about 2 C, light snow falling and eight skippers and crew from the NOTL Sailing Club on the Niagara River racing, bundled up in toques, gloves, goggles, winter coats, and boots. The club's adult Learn To Sail program begins in May and runs all summer and the Junior Sailing program runs July and August. Left, Jinnie Gordon, Laurel Gordon and Monique Kruppa were racing Red Owarf while right, Cathy Andres and Jaime Oay prepared for Sunday's cold race.

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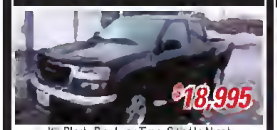
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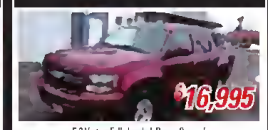
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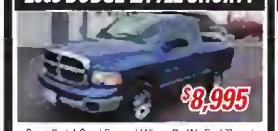
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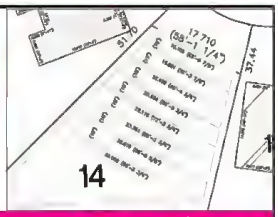

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